



ROCKDALE COUNTY PRESS RELEASE

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Rockdale County to Enact Ordinance to Wear Face Coverings or Masks in Public

ROCKDALE COUNTY, Ga. – The Rockdale County Board of Commissioners (BOC) adopted an ordinance addressing the wearing of face coverings or masks while in public places at the August 11 BOC Meeting. This ordinance follows a previous resolution the BOC enacted at the July 28 voting session suggesting the wearing of face masks.

The ordinance was presented to the BOC for the first read, with the second read being waived and adopted at Tuesday's meeting. The ordinance replaces the resolution's suggestion of wearing face coverings and masks to an offense which can be enforced by general penalty.

The ordinance has been drafted in accordance with the Executive Order issued by Governor Brian Kemp as stated in Code Section 38-3-51 that "all residents and visitors of the State of Georgia are strongly encouraged to wear face coverings as practicable while outside their homes or place of residence, except when eating, drinking or exercising outdoors."

These measures have been taken to protect the safety of the community during a time where COVID-19 is still very active within the county and throughout the country. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) advised it is possible that those who are infected with COVID-19 can show no symptoms and spread the virus to other individuals as well as individuals being contagious prior to the onset of symptoms.

Requirement to wear face covering or mask encompasses the following:

- All persons present in Rockdale County, who are over the age of eight (8) years old are required to wear a face covering or mask which covers the nose and mouth when in any public place
- No employer shall prohibit an employee from wearing a face covering, except to the limited extent that doing so would prevent the employee from performing an essential job function that cannot be performed while wearing a face covering.
- This shall not be construed to prohibit the use of medical or industrial face coverings, shields or other forms of personal protective equipment which offer more protection

To see exemptions or for more information, visit rockdalecountyga.gov or the following link:
<https://rockdalecountyga.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/mask-ordinance.pdf>.

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